

TEACHERS' RETIREMENT BOARD
SUBCOMMITTEE ON CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

SUBJECT: Responses to Holocaust Era Claim Letters

ITEM NUMBER: 4

ATTACHMENT(S): 0

ACTION:

DATE OF MEETING: May 3, 2000

INFORMATION: X

PRESENTER(S): Patrick Mitchell

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

CalSTRS sent letters to the following portfolio companies on March 8, 2000, regarding compliance with California Assembly Bill 600 (Knox, Statutes of 1999, Chapter 827). This legislation requires all companies doing business in the State of California to provide a list of all policies written between 1920 and 1945, and to create an open and accessible registry of policyholders.

- ❖ Assicurazoni Generali, S.p.a.
- ❖ Zurich Insurance Company
- ❖ Allianz AG
- ❖ AXA-UAP

To date, CalSTRS has only received a response from the Zurich Insurance Company. This letter states that the firm has no outstanding claims from any Holocaust victims. The letter goes on to state that the firm's research turned up 22 unpaid policies that "might have a relationship to a victim of the Holocaust" and that the names have been passed on to the International Commission on Holocaust Era Insurance Claims. Finally, the letter states that the relevant U.S. subsidiaries of Zurich "will make a timely joint filing under California Assembly Bill 600."

CalSTRS has not reviewed the issue with the Insurance Commissioner to determine whether the filings have been completed by Zurich and the other portfolio companies.

In addition to the letters sent to the portfolio companies, CalSTRS has received and responded to five inquiries from the public regarding the Holocaust Insurance Settlement. CalSTRS responses were mailed on March 9, 2000, one day after the letters to the insurance companies went out on behalf of the fund. Staff has copies of all the materials discussed in the Investments Office for your perusal.